

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) An oven apparatus, comprising:

a housing;

a heat generator disposed in association with the housing;

a code input device;

a controller that stores a plurality of recipe programs upon receipt of the plurality of programs and operates the heat generator in accordance with a recipe program selected from the plurality of recipe programs in view of a code input by the code input device; and

a network interface, in communication with the controller, configured to request a recipe program from an operably connected, but external device, if the code input by the code input device does not correspond to any one of the plurality of recipe programs stored in the controller.

2. (Original) The oven apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a clock in communication with the controller, the clock being set upon receipt of a time synchronization message at the network interface.

3. (Previously Presented) The oven apparatus of claim 1, wherein a recipe program request message is formatted upon the controller failing to associate the input code from the code input device with one recipe program from the plurality of recipe programs and wherein the recipe program request message is transmitted to the operably connected, but external device.

4. (Original) The oven apparatus of claim 3, wherein the network interface is in receipt of a new recipe program associated with the input code in response to the recipe program request message being sent to the operably connected, but external device.

5. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
receiving, without user intervention, in an oven a plurality of recipe programs at a network interface from an operably connected, but external device; and
storing the plurality of recipe programs in a memory by a controller that are each selectable with a digital signal from a code input device;
requesting a recipe program from the operably connected, but external device, if a code input by a code input device does not correspond to any one of the plurality of recipe programs stored in the memory; and
configuring the oven in response to the digital signal being associated with one recipe program in the plurality of recipe programs.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
formatting a recipe program request message in response to the controller failing to select a recipe program from the plurality of recipe programs that is associated with the digital signal and transmitting the recipe program request message to the operably connected, but external device; and
receiving a requested recipe program at the network interface from the operably connected, but external device in response to the recipe program request message.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising:

receiving a time synchronization message at the network interface; and

setting a clock in the oven by the controller upon receipt of the time synchronization message.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving, without user intervention, in an oven a plurality of recipe programs at a network interface from an operably connected, but external device; and

means for storing the plurality of recipe programs in a memory by a controller that are each selectable with a digital signal from a code input device;

means for requesting a recipe program from the operably connected, but external device, if a code input by a code input device does not correspond to any one of the plurality of recipe programs stored in the memory; and

means for configuring the oven in response to the digital signal being associated with one recipe program in the plurality of recipe programs.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

means for formatting a recipe program request message in response to the controller failing to select a recipe program from the plurality of recipe programs that is associated with the digital signal and transmitting the recipe program request message to the operably connected, but external device; and

means for receiving a requested recipe program at the network interface from the operably connected, but external device in response to the recipe program request message.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

means for receiving a time synchronization message at the network interface; and

means for setting a clock in the oven by the controller upon receipt of the time synchronization message.

11. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable signal-bearing medium containing instructions that cause a system to perform a method for operating an oven, the method comprising:

receiving, without user intervention, at the oven a plurality of recipe programs at a network interface from an operably connected, but external device; and

storing the plurality of recipe programs in a memory by a controller that are each selectable with a digital signal from a code input device;

requesting a recipe program from the operably connected, but external device, if a code input by a code input device does not correspond to any one of the plurality of recipe programs stored in the memory; and

configuring the oven in response to the digital signal being associated with one recipe program in the plurality of recipe programs.

12. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable signal-bearing medium of claim 11, further comprising:

formatting a recipe program request message in response to the controller failing to select a recipe program from the plurality of recipe programs that is associated with the digital signal

and transmitting the recipe program request message to the operably connected, but external device; and

receiving a requested recipe program at the network interface from the operably connected, but external device in response to the recipe program request message.

13. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable signal-bearing medium of claim 11, further comprising:

receiving a time synchronization message at the network interface; and
setting a clock in the oven by the controller upon receipt of the time synchronization message.

14. (Previously Presented) The oven apparatus of claim 1, wherein the code input device comprises a bar code reader for scanning a unique product code.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the code input device comprises a bar code reader for scanning a unique product code.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the code input device comprises a bar code reader for scanning a unique product code.

17. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable signal-bearing medium of claim 11, wherein the code input device comprises a bar code reader for scanning a unique product code.

18. (Previously Presented) An oven apparatus, comprising:

- a housing;
- a heat generator disposed in association with the housing;
- a code input device including a bar code reader for scanning a unique product code; and
- a controller that stores a plurality of recipe programs upon receipt of the plurality of programs and operates the heat generator in accordance with a recipe program selected from the plurality of recipe programs in view of a code input by the code input device, the plurality of recipe programs being received at a network interface from an operably connected, but external device, the controller being configured to format a recipe program request message including the input code upon the controller failing to find a recipe program in the plurality of recipe programs associated with the input code and transmit the recipe program request message to the operably connected, but external device.

19. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

- receiving in an oven a plurality of recipe programs at a network interface from an operably connected, but external device; and
- storing the plurality of recipe programs in a memory by a controller that are each selectable with a digital signal from a code input device, the code input device including a bar code reader for scanning a unique product code;
- configuring the oven in response to the digital signal being associated with one recipe program in the plurality of recipe programs; and

formatting a recipe program request message in response to the controller failing to select a recipe program from the plurality of recipe programs that is associated with the digital signal;
and

receiving a requested recipe program at the network interface from the operably connected, but external device in response to the recipe program request message.

20. (Cancelled)